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June 16, 2022

Karhlton F. Moore, Director
Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs
810 Seventh Street, NW
Washington, DC 20531

Director Moore:

I am writing to express my strong support for the city of Flint's application for a Community Based Violence Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CVIPI) grant. This evidence-based and community-wide program to reduce and prevent crime in the city of Flint is critical to helping to the city continue to address decades of violent crime.

The city of Flint has struggled against high rates of violent crime—gun violence in particular—for over two decades. These high rates of violent crime have been compounded by the effects of the ongoing Flint water crisis, the economic recession and most recently the COVID-19 pandemic. This endemic violence has become so acute that last year, on July 23, 2021, the Flint Mayor declared a state of emergency due to gun violence.

Flint needs community-wide interventions, like the one outlined in the city's CVIPI grant proposal, that will bring together a range of community stakeholders to address ongoing gun violence. This includes mental health service providers, community groups, faith-based organizations, law enforcement, victim advocates, service providers as well as hospitals and other health care providers to develop targeted violence interventions and develop a unified, data- and performance-driven public health strategy for the community.

Once again, I strongly support the city of Flint's CVIPI grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs. I hope you will look favorably upon Flint's proposal to the extent federal law and agency regulations apply.

Sincerely,

Daniel T. Kildee
MEMBER OF CONGRESS